

Name _____

The Tale of Orpheus and Eurydice

Short Answer Key

1. Orpheus entered the underworld guided by his music, played for Hades and Persephone, and pleaded for Eurydice's return.
2. Orpheus broke the agreement by looking back at Eurydice just before they reached the surface. The consequence was her return to the underworld, lost forever.
3. Orpheus coped with the loss through mournful music that conveyed his sorrow. His music symbolized his undying love and grief.
4. The central message is that love, although powerful, cannot conquer death, and decisions made in haste or doubt can have irreversible consequences.
5. Answers may vary. Some may argue that Orpheus's love was worth the risk, while others may argue that he should have respected the agreement with Hades.

